

In the claims:

- ✓ Please cancel claims ¹⁰1-27 without prejudice.
- ✓ Please cancel claim 32 without prejudice.
- ✓ Please cancel claim 56 without prejudice.
- ✓ Please cancel claims 66-73 without prejudice.
- ✓ Please cancel claim 76 without prejudice.
- ✓ Please cancel claims 79-86 without prejudice.
- ✓ Please cancel claims 123-135 without prejudice.

In claim 28, line 13 of the claim, please change "25°C. to about 30°C." to -25 degrees

B1 Celsius to about 30 degrees Celsius--.

In claim 37, please delete the phrase "wherein the majority of said components are compatible with said elastomeric polymer B;".

✓ In claim 44, please change "molecular weight" to --weight average molecular weight--.

✓ In claim 49, please delete the phrase "wherein the majority of said components are compatible with said elastomeric polymer B;".

In claim 52, line 4 of the claim, please change "is an ultra high molecular weight triblock copolymer" to --has a weight average molecular weight of at least about 300,000 or

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cont

more

In claim 61, please delete the phrase "wherein the majority of said components are compatible with said elastomeric polymer B;"

claim 97
canceled
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In claim 97, please delete the phrase "wherein the majority of said constituents are compatible with said hydrogenated polymer B;"

In claim 108, lines 7-8 of the claim, please change both occurrences of "molecular weight" to --weight average molecular weight--.

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In claim 120, lines 6-7 of the claim, please change both occurrences of "molecular weight" to --weight average molecular weight--.

Please rewrite claim 40 as follows:

1240. (once amended) An elastomeric material having

a plasticizer and

a triblock copolymer of the general configuration A-B-A;

wherein A is a hydrogenated polymer including [a plurality of]

ethylene/propylene [monomers] and [a plurality of] ethylene/butylene [monomers];

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wherein the combined weights of said ethylene/propylene [monomers] and said ethylene/butylene [monomers] comprise more than about 50 weight percent of said hydrogenated polymer B;

wherein a mixture including about 20 weight percent of said triblock copolymer and about 80 weight percent toluene, the weight percentages based on the total weight of the mixture, at from about [25°C. to about 30°C.,] 25 degrees Celsius to about 30 degrees Celsius, does not form a solution;

wherein said plasticizer associates with said hydrogenated polymer B;
wherein said triblock copolymer has a measurable percent elongation at break;
wherein said plasticizer tends to increase the percent elongation at break of said triblock copolymer;

wherein said triblock copolymer has a rigidity measurable on the Gram Bloom scale; and

wherein said plasticizer tends to decrease the Gram Bloom rigidity of said triblock copolymer.

Please rewrite claim 74 as follows:

91 74. (once amended) A gelatinous elastomeric material comprising:

a plasticizer including a plurality of plasticizing polymer molecules,
an elastomer comprising a plurality of elastomeric triblock copolymers of the general configuration A-B-A, each of said triblock copolymers having:
two end blocks A and
one mid block B [having two ends], and

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cont

B4

a plurality of hollow spherical objects;
wherein each of said mid block B is covalently linked to one of said end blocks A;
wherein said end blocks A are non-elastomeric polymers;
wherein said mid block B is an elastomeric polymer,
[wherein said end blocks A of different triblock copolymers associate to form a three dimensional web of triblock copolymers;]
wherein said mid block B of [each] at least some of said triblock copolymers includes a plurality of backbone carbon molecules and a plurality of side chains;
[wherein said plasticizing polymer molecules are trapped within said three dimensional web;]
wherein said elastomer has a weight average molecular weight of at least about 300,000 when determined by gel permeation chromatography;
wherein said plasticizing polymer molecules, upon placement of the material under a load, tend to facilitate disentanglement and elongation of said mid blocks B during elongation of the material;
wherein said plasticizing polymer molecules, upon release of the load from the material, tend to facilitate recontraction of the material;
wherein said plasticizing polymer molecules comprise at least about 60 weight percent of the material, based on the combined weights of said triblock copolymers and said plasticizing polymers;
wherein said elastomer has a measurable percent elongation at break;
wherein said plasticizer tends to increase the percent elongation at break of said elastomer;

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wherein said elastomer has a rigidity measurable on the Gram Bloom scale, and
wherein said plasticizer tends to decrease the Gram Bloom rigidity of said
elastomer[;]

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[wherein said hollow spherical objects are trapped within said three dimensional
web; and

wherein said spherical objects reduce exudation of said plasticizer molecules from
said three dimensional web].

Please [✓]rewrite claim 99 as follows:

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41/99. (once amended) A gelatinous elastomeric material comprising:

a triblock copolymer of the general configuration A-B-A;

a plasticizing agent; and

an additive;

wherein said triblock copolymer, said plasticizing agent, and said additive are
mixed together to form the gelatinous elastomeric material;

wherein A is a polymer selected from the group consisting of monoalkenylarene
polymers;

wherein B is a hydrogenated polymer comprising a plurality of covalently linked
conjugated diene monomers;

wherein at least one of said conjugated diene monomers is isoprene;

[wherein said triblock copolymer is selected from the group consisting of very
high molecular weight copolymers of the general configuration A-B-A and ultra
high molecular weight triblock copolymers of the general configuration A-B-A;]

wherein said triblock copolymer has a weight average molecular weight of about 300,000 or more;

wherein said plasticizer comprises at least about 60 weight percent of the material, based on the combined weights of said plasticizer and said triblock copolymer; wherein said additive is selected from the group consisting of detackifying layers, foaming facilitators, tack modifiers, plasticizer bleed modifiers, flame retardants, melt viscosity modifiers, melt temperature modifiers, tensile strength modifiers and shrinkage inhibitors;

wherein the gelatinous material has a rigidity measurable on the Gram Bloom scale;

wherein said plasticizer tends to reduce the Shore A rigidity of the gelatinous elastomeric material; and

wherein the gelatinous elastomeric material has a durometer of about 15 Shore A or lower[]; and

wherein the gelatinous elastomeric material has a rebound rate of about one second or less].

Please rewrite claim 111 as follows:

111. (once amended) A gelatinous elastomeric material comprising:

a triblock copolymer of the general configuration A-B-A;

a plasticizing agent; and

an additive;

wherein said triblock copolymer, said plasticizing agent, and said additive are mixed together to form the gelatinous elastomeric material;

wherein A is a polymer selected from the group consisting of monoalkenylarene polymers;

wherein B is a hydrogenated polymer comprising a plurality of covalently linked conjugated diene monomers;

[wherein said triblock copolymer is selected from the group consisting of very high molecular weight triblock copolymers of the general configuration A-B-A and ultra high molecular weight triblock copolymers of the general configuration A-B-A;]

wherein said triblock copolymer is of the general configuration A-B-A and has a weight average molecular weight of at least about 300,000 or more;

wherein said triblock copolymer has a measurable solution viscosity at 5 weight percent solids in 95% toluene at 25 degrees Celsius and said triblock copolymer remains a solid at 20 weight percent solids in 80% toluene at 25 degrees Celsius;

wherein said plasticizer comprises at least about 60 weight percent of the material, based on the combined weights of said plasticizer and said triblock copolymer;

wherein said additive is selected from the group consisting of detackfying layers, foaming facilitators, tack modifiers, plasticizer bleed modifiers, flame retardants, melt viscosity modifiers, melt temperature modifiers, tensile strength modifiers, and shrinkage inhibitors;

wherein said gelatinous material has a rigidity measurable on the Gram Bloom scale;

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wherein said pasticizer tends to reduce Shore A rigidity of the gelatinous elastomeric material; and

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wherein the gelatinous elastomeric material has a durometer of about 15 Shore A or lower[; and

wherein the gelatinous elastomeric material has a rebound rate of about one second or less].

Please add the following new claims:

66 136. An elastomeric material comprising:

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a triblock copolymer elastomer of the configuration A-B-A and having a weight average molecular weight of about 300,000 or above, block A being a non-elastomeric polymer and block B being an elastomeric polymer, said A-B-A triblock copolymer having no solution viscosity at 20% solids in 80% toluene at 25 degrees Celcius as it remains a solid under those conditions, and

a plasticizer combined with said triblock copolymer elastomer to form a visco-elastic material, said plasticizer being compatible with said B block.

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137. A material as recited in claim 136 wherein said A-B-A triblock copolymer has a solution viscosity of about 30040 to 5800 cps at 10% solids in 90% toluene at 25 degrees Celcius.

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138. A material as recited in claim 136 wherein said "B" blocks of said

A-B-A triblock copolymer have a plurality of side chains having a length of at least one carbon atom.

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139. A material as recited in claim ~~138~~ ⁶⁷ wherein said side chains are found to typically occur on about one of every four backbone carbon atoms.

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140. A material as recited in claim ~~138~~ ⁶⁷ wherein said elastomer and said plasticizer are found in a ratio of about 4:1 to 20:1.

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141. A material as recited in claim ~~136~~ ⁶⁵ wherein said A-B-A triblock copolymer has a solution viscosity in the range of about 3040 to 5800 cps at 10% solids in 90% toluene at 25 degrees Celcius.

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142. A material as recited in claim ~~136~~ ⁶⁵ wherein said A-B-A triblock copolymer has a solution viscosity of about 90 cps at 5% solids in 95% toluene at 25 degrees Celcius.

Remarks

Applicant has deleted material from pages 7-16 of the specification that the Examiner found improper. Applicant believes that this form of amendment is most convenient, but will submit replacement pages or make the make the amendment in another form if requested by the Examiner.